GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3412
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2002
ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR WASTELAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES
RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there had been large scaj underspending of money allocated under different scheme of wastelands development during the Eighth and Nin Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor:

(c) the funds allocated and utilised for wastelan: development during the said plan periods, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by thi Government to ensure that the funds allocated are properl and fully utilised during the Tenth Plan Period for th purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY 01 RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL)

(a) to (d) The Department of Land Resources (DoLR) il the Ministry of Rural Developmentis implementing thl Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDPI the Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and thl Desert development Programme (DDP) o watershel basis for treatment of wastelands and degraded lands in accordance with the Guidelines for Watershed Develo~ ment w.e.f. 1.4.1995.

Under these Programmes, annual allocations are made to the States. The annual budget allocation madel to the programmes at the Central level are utilised for meeting the committed liabilities towards the on.gain watershed projects keeping in view the progress achiev and sanction of new projects. Accordingly, funds allocate and released to the States under these watershed development programmes at the Central level during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plan are as below: `

(Rs. in lakhs)

programme	Eighth Plan (1995-96 & 1996-97)		Ninth Plan (1997-98 to 2001-02)	
	Allocation	Released	Allocation	Released
iwdp	100.00	101.80	492.13	496.96
dpap	250.00	228.93	678.75	657.31
ddp	165.00	166.37	520.03	519.67

Thus the funds provided for these programmes during ighth and Ninth Plans have been more or less fully ed. The programme outlays approved by the Planning mission during the Tenth Plan are also likely to be utilised.

The Gudelines for these Programmes have been revised in 2001 to provide a greater flexibility, focussed for Panchayati Raj Institutions, twin track approach, protocol, greater community participation in project ementation and project maintenance etc. The monitormechanism is also being strenghened by involving lted institutions at State and District levels in addition [he existing monitoring system. Mid-term evaluation has ~ been introduced for the projects sanctioned under the dpap and the DDP in order to make mid-course corrections, wherever necessary.